

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 0404Z 051048Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 AID-05 /109 W
-----019750 051125Z /10

R 050945Z JUL 78 ZFF BANGUI GABORONE LOME MAPUTO

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5980
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4042

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SOPN, PEPR, CG, MO
SUBJ: GOM VIEW OF REFORM IN ZAIRE

REF: STATE 160652

1. SUMMARY. MOROCCO IS FULLY BEHIND EFFORTS TO EXERT PRESSURE ON MOBUTU TO IMPLEMENT INTERNAL REFORMS. GOM IS, HOWEVER, VERY SENSITIVE THAT WESTERN ACTIONS DO NOT MAKE MOROCCO APPEAR A PROXY FOR THE WEST NOR AN INSTRUMENT OF "NEOCLONIALISM" IN ZAIRE. END SUMMARY.

2. KING HASSAN STATED GOM POSITION ON THE NEED FOR INTERNAL REFORM IN ZAIRE MOST CLEARLY IN AN INTERVIEW WITH MILAN'S CORRIERE DELLA SERA PUBLISHED JUNE 6. "THE MOBUTU REGIME," HASSAN SAID, "MUST ADOPT A NEW POLICY. IT MUST CARRY OUT REFORMS AND GRANT GREATER AUTONOMY TO THE POPULATIONS OF SUCH A VAST AND COMPOSITE COUNTRY. IN A WORD, THE REGIME MUST TRY TO GATHER MORE SUPPORT AND GREATER TRUST IF IT WISHES THE COUNTRY REMAIN UNITED." REPORTS SURROUDNING MOBUTU'S LATE MAY VISIT TO MOROCCO (RABAT 3217) SUGGEST THAT HASSAN PERSONALLY GAVE THE SAME MESSAGE TO THE ZAIRIAN PRESIDENT IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS. THESE PREDILECTIONS PLUS THE KING'S FAVORABLE VIEW OF US PARTICIPATION IN ZAIRE RELIEF EFFORTS INDICATE THAT THE GOM IS BEHIND US AND OTHER WESTERN EFFORTS TO PRESSURE MOBUTU TO IMPLEMENT INTERNAL REFORM. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE GOM NEEDS ANY URGING TO CONVEY ITS VIEWS TO THE GOZ.

3. GOM, HOWEVER, IS VERY SENSITIVE THAT IT NOT APPEAR
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A PROXY OF THE WEST OR AN INSTRUMENT OF "NEOCOLONIALISM" IN ZAIRE. BEFORE COMMITTING TROOPS TO SHABA IN APRIL, MOROCCO SET CONDITION THAT OTHER AFRICAN STATES PARTICIPATE IN THE RELIEF FORCE AND SOUGHT A LEGITIMATE "AFRICAN" AUTHORITY TO SEND ITS TROOPS--OAU PRESIDENT BONGO'S CALL FOR ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE. KING HASSAN AND PRO-GOM PRESS HAVE SINCE CONSISTENTLY STRESSED THE MULTILATERAL NATURE OF THE INTER-AFRICAN FORCE AND CLEARLY DIFFERENTIATED ITS MISSION FROM THAT OF THE EUROPEAN PARATROOPS INITIALLY SENT TO SHABA. THIS SENSITIVITY SUGGESTS THAT THE GOM WOULD DESIRE THAT PRESSURE FOR INTERNAL REFORM IN ZAIRE COME EQUALLY FROM AFRICAN AND WESTERN SOURCES AND NOT BE DONE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO APPEAR A WESTERN IMPOSITION ON MOBUTU.
ANDERSON

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